

REMARKS

Applicants request entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of the present application. Claims 22-31 are present in this application. Claims 7-21 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 22-31 are the new claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If for any reason the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with the Applicants' attorney would help to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned's Los Angeles office at (213) 337-6809.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Dated: February 18, 2005

By: 

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